

CORRECTED FISCAL NOTE

SB 919 - HB 855

May 1, 2007

SUMMARY OF BILL: Prohibits civil defense and emergency management personnel from installing, maintaining or exhibiting blue flashing emergency lights on their vehicles. A violation is punishable as a Class C misdemeanor.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

On February 13, 2007, we issued a fiscal note that indicated a not significant impact on state and local governments. Based upon additional information obtained from TEMA and from various county emergency management agencies the fiscal impact is:

(CORRECTED)

Increase State Revenues – Not Significant

Increase State Expenditures – \$70,000 One-Time

Increase Local Govt. Revenues – Not Significant

Increase Local Govt. Expenditures – Exceeds \$100,000* One-Time

Assumptions:

- State and local emergency management agencies are currently authorized to use blue flashing emergency lights and currently have such lights installed on their vehicles.
- Such use is authorized by current law according to the Tennessee Attorney General in Opinion No. 06-050.
- The provisions of this bill will require all state and local emergency agencies using blue flashing emergency lights to remove such lights from their vehicles and instead install red flashing emergency lights.
- There will be a one-time increase in state expenditures for TEMA to change from blue flashing emergency lights to red flashing emergency lights. TEMA will have to replace the lighting systems on 52 vehicles at an average cost of approximately \$1,346 per vehicle.
- There will be a one-time increase in local government expenditures for county and municipal emergency management agencies to change from blue flashing emergency lights to red flashing emergency lights. The total number of vehicles affected at this time is unknown. However based upon information obtained from various county emergency

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management associations, the state-wide cost is estimated to exceed \$100,000.

- There will not be a sufficient number of prosecutions for local governments to experience any significant increase in revenues or expenditures.
- The state will receive fines and the clerks will receive commission on such fines in accordance with TCA 55-10-303.

*Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: *no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "White".

James W. White, Executive Director